

48077 T O P S E C R E T
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1453

GENERAL

1. British fear renewed violence in Egypt--US Ambassador Caffery in Cairo reports that the British Ambassador is so seriously concerned about the current state of Anglo-Egyptian relations that he has ordered guards at the British Embassy to be armed with machine guns. Caffery adds that the British envoy is particularly concerned about the UK's recently announced decision to hold up arms shipments to Egypt. He has warned the Foreign Office that this decision might justifiably be regarded by the Egyptians as an act of bad faith.

FAR EAST

2. KOREA: ROK Cabinet strengthened--US Ambassador Muccio in Seoul reports that President Rhee's recent Cabinet appointments provide the Republic of Korea with the strongest Cabinet combination since the inception of that government. Muccio believes that the new cabinet, with the able John Chang, Ambassador to the US, as premier and including two capable members of the Democratic Nationalist Party, should have vastly improved working relations with the National Assembly and "gives Rhee talent with which to deal" with reconstruction problems and UNCURK.

3. INDOCHINA: Chinese charges of French border violations--General Carpentier, Commander in Chief of French forces in the Far East, has informed US Minister Heath in Saigon that ninety percent of the recent Chinese Communist charges of French border violations are false. Although admitting that

- 1 -

Document No. 46
NO CHANGE in Class.
 DECLASSIFIED
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S
Auth: DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
Date: 23 MAR 1970 25X1
DDA REG. 77/1763

STATE review(s) completed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

High Commissioner Pignon took a grave view of the charges, Carpentier speculated that the Chinese accusations might be intended to forestall legitimate French complaints over Viet Minh attacks from China, as bluff, or as a warning of eventual overt Chinese invasion.

25X1

25X1

~~TOP SECRET~~